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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/660,617	09/12/2003	Gary Hsu	2019-0218P	6121
2292	7590	10/05/2004	EXAMINER	
BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747			EDWARDS, ANTHONY Q	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2835	

DATE MAILED: 10/05/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/660,617	HSU, GARY	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Anthony Q. Edwards	2835	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7, 9, 10 and 12-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 8 and 11 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>See Continuation Sheet</u> . |

Continuation of Attachment(s) 6). Other: marked copy of Figs. 6, 7 & 9 of '248.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-4 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S.

Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0078248 to Janik et al. (“Janik” hereinafter). Referring to claim 1, Janik discloses a modularized universal jacket (14) for a PDA (2), comprising a housing consisting of an upper shell (66) and a lower shell (70) for enclosing to define a first section, a second section and a third section in an interior space thereof (see Fig. 6), a module set mounted in at least one of the three sections and electrically connected to each other (see paragraphs 0035-0038), and adapting means (not numbered) coupled on the housing (see marked copy of Fig. 7). It should be noted that the “wherein” clause adds nothing to the patentability of this claim, since modules being replace according to instructions, as predetermined or according to upgrade needs, respectively, simply defines a “module.”

Referring to claim 2, Janik discloses a modularized universal jacket for a PDA, wherein the module set includes a battery module (86). See Figs. 6 and 7.

Referring to claim 3, Janik discloses a modularized universal jacket for a PDA, wherein the module set includes a wireless module (78). See Figs. 6 and 7.

Referring to claim 4, Janik discloses a modularized universal jacket for a PDA, wherein the module set includes a main circuit board module (74). See Figs. 6 and 7.

Referring to claim 12, Janik discloses a modularized universal jacket for a PDA, wherein the second section of the housing has a protrusion (connector, not numbered, adjacent 106 and 114) and a recess ("valley" formed between the battery (86) and board with connector (22)) distributed on a periphery thereof, and the wireless module (78) mounted in the second section includes a recess (connector, not shown, which mates connector adjacent 106 and 114) and a protrusion (outer edge of 78) in correspondence with the protrusion and the recess of the second section.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Janik. Janik discloses the device as claimed, including an adapter connector (22) exposed by the upper shell (66) of the housing (see Figs. 6 and 7). Janik does not specifically teach the main circuit board module (74) mounted by means of screws. It is notoriously old and well known in the art or electrical devices (including PDA accessories) to utilize screws as a means of securing circuit boards. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to

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secure the main circuit board to the lower shell of the jacket of Janik with screws, since the screws would attach the main circuit board to the lower shell in a durable and simple manner.

Claims 5, 6 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Janik in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,570,775 to Lai. Referring to claim 5, Janik discloses the device as claimed, including adapting means comprising an adapter board (not numbered, see marked copy of Fig. 6) and a receptacle connector (22) electrically connected to the PDA (see Fig. 9). Janik does not specifically disclose the adapter and adapter connectors between the main board and the adapting board. Lai teaches modular adapting means including an adapting board (2) having an adapter connector (112) electrically connected to the adapter connector (110) of a module set (1) for connecting parallel circuit boards (see Figs. 1 and 2. It would have obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide the adapting means of Janik with adapter connectors, as taught by Lai, since the device of Lai would provide modular connection between the parallel boards of Janik.

Referring to claim 6, Janik in view of Lai disclose the invention as claimed, wherein the adapting means further includes a cover body (not number, see marker copy of Fig. 2) covered on the adapting board, and the cover body has buttons (e.g., 26) corresponding to electronic components on the adapting board, wherein the adapting board further includes a power socket (not shown) and a jack (38). Although the power socket is not shown, it is notoriously old and well known in the art or electrical devices (including PDA accessories) to include power sockets to supply AC power to the devices. It would have obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to further modify the device of Janik to include a power socket on the

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adapting board, since the power socket would allow AC power to be supplied to the device without additional parts.

Referring to claim 14, Janik in view of Lai disclose the invention as claimed, wherein the adapting means includes an adapting board (see marked copy of Fig. 6) having an adapter connector electrically connected to the adapter connector of the main circuit board module (74) and a receptacle connector (22) electrically connected to the PDA. See Figs. 7 and 9.

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Janik in view of U.S. Patent Application No. US2003/0016487 to Tung-Chieh et al. Janik discloses the invention as claimed, except for the lower shell of the housing including a card connector for inserting an electronic card therein. Tung-Chieh et al. teaches providing a lower shell of a PDA jacket (see Fig. 1) with a slot for inserting an electronic card (300), wherein a card connector is inherently provided in the lower shell (see paragraph 0022). It would have obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide the lower shell of Janik with a card slot and card connector, as taught by Tung-Chieh et al., since the device of Tung-Chieh et al. would allow additional functions to be performed using the PDA and jacket of Janik.

Claims 9 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Janik in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. US2003/0100275 to Hsu et al. Referring to claim 9, Janik discloses the invention as claimed, except for the first section of the housing (i.e., the area containing the battery (86)) having an opening at an outer end thereof. Hsu et al. teach providing an opening (57) at the outer end of a first section (i.e., the end portion) of a housing of an electronic device (5). See Fig. 3 and paragraph 0018. It would have obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide an opening at the outer end of the first

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section of the housing of Janik, as taught by Hsu et al., since the device of Hsu et al. would provide ready access to the inner components of Janik.

Referring to claim 10, Janik in view of Hsu et al. disclose the invention as claimed, wherein the first section (i.e., the end portion) of the housing has two guiding tracks (91) at two sides thereof, and a battery module (82) mounted in the first section. See Figs. 4 and 5 of Hsu et al. Although two sliding slots are not shown in correspondence with the guiding tracks of the first section, it is notoriously old and well known in the art of electrical devices (including PDA accessories) to sliding slots that correspond to guiding tracks or rails for inserting module devices. It would have obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to further modify the invention of Janik to include sliding slots on the battery module that correspond with guiding tracks, since the sliding slots would provide insertion and removal of the battery module in a secure manner.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 8 and 11 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: referring to claim 8, the specific limitation of the upper shell of the housing including a seesawing plate having a support needle at an end thereof, and the support needle corresponding to a reset hole of the PDA, in combination with the rest of the elements or steps, are not taught or suggested by the prior art references.

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Referring to claim 11, the specific limitation of the first section of the housing having a movable wedge at an inner end thereof, and the battery module having an recess in which the movable wedge is buckled, wherein the movable wedge is connected to a switch assembled on an exterior surface of the housing, in combination with the rest of the elements or steps, are not taught or suggested by the prior art references.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure: U.S. Patent Application No. 2003/0116631 to Salvato et al. disclose an adapter unit that provides additional functionality for a PDA device; U.S. Patent Application No. 2004/0066611 to Wu discloses a computer keyboard with backup module battery; and U.S. Patent No. 5,768,106 to Ichimura discloses a layered circuit board design with connectors.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anthony Q. Edwards whose telephone number is 571-272-2042. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (7:30-3:00) First Friday Off.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn D. Feild can be reached on 571-272-2800, ext. 35. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

September 30, 2004

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LYNN FEILD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800